

Mountain/1st

Neighborhood Association

May 2005

Happy Mother's Day!

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

www.mtn1st.org

Report on Last Meeting!

Minutes of Mountain/1st Neighborhood Meeting on April 21, 2005, at the Ward 3 Office. Seventeen neighbors were present.

Announcements: Sidewalk petitions have been signed, submitted, and approved. The southern point of Mitchell Park will be extended to accommodate the new traffic circle at Fremont and Santa Rita. Work should begin in another month and circle cost estimate is \$8,000. Our protest letter for the liquor license being requested by Spot Billards at 2502 N. First Avenue circulated. Members of the Hedrick Acres neighborhood applied for a CDBG Planning Grant to study affordable housing and infill in HANA, Mtn/1st, and Samos neighborhoods. There were numerous handouts regarding recycling, composting, and consensus building.

Our speaker, **Carlos Nagel**, Limberlost Neighborhood and Stone Curves co-housing, gave us his background in community development projects dating from 1974 to present. Some of his projects have been with the Desert Museum, intercultural training, helping create Hands Across the Border, Limberlost NA dealing with Home Depot's new building in their neighborhood, and a 55,000 acre environmental community development project in Mexico. Carlos stated that linking different points of view is a key to sustainability. To do this, parties need to discuss common ground, his great passion, to be open, honest, and to develop trust. Their meetings develop consensus by "speaking with, not at each other" and make sure that everyone's concerns are fully addressed. Regarding Stone Curves, he said they had a Board of Directors and are incorporated as a non-profit for fundraising purposes. The Board develops meeting agendas to coordinate committees. They use Roberts Rules of Order only when a legal need arises, otherwise they use "informed consensus". His parting motto is "receiving is in giving". Carlos offered to lead a Consensus Building Workshop if we can get a dozen participants for a 4-hour session some future Saturday morning.

Leslie Hunten, Pima Council on Aging Elder Care, gave an update asking for volunteers to assist our elderly and disabled. There is grant money available. **Annyce, Ali, Tim, and Ron** signed up as interested. We need clarification if this is a Neighborhood project. Annyce Meiner expressed concern about noise in the neighborhood coming from late night parties and dogs, asking if we could address this as a neighborhood issue. Ron made a motion to establish a committee to look into solutions to the neighborhood noise problems, which was seconded. Vote passed. Pima County Animal Control and Tucson Police Department have the authority to deal with these issues. Our association does not.

Consuelo Pitpitan raised the question of overgrown weeds near her house and how to deal with them. Judi said, "Neighbors are responsible for cleaning these up in their own yards, front easement and their half of their alleys."

Matthew Pulver expressed interest in designing artwork for any of our traffic circles. He passed around his sketches.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45pm.

Upcoming Events!

May 18, Ward III Neighbors, Woods Library, 6:30-8 pm. Geo-based Services and **Alex Powell**, artist for new gym at Northwest Neighborhood Center.

Agenda for Next Meeting!

May 19, 2005 7-8:30 p.m.

Loretta Ishida, ProNeighborhoods, 90 min.
Asset Mapping Workshop

Fun and creative evening of brainstorming. Hope to see many new faces for this one!

May 21, 2005, ProNeighborhoods Workshop, Effective Meetings, 9 am-Noon, Sentinel Building.

In answer to your questions:

What is our standing with being notified of crimes in our area by the police if these are going to court? Are we registered to be notified? Yes, with DNR, who answers:

1) State statutes allow registered neighborhood associations to have legal standing in some crimes where victims have standing. That means when there is a trial, victims may be allowed to comment in testimony or penalty phase. This does not mean that TPD is required to notify folks in an association when there is criminal activity going on or the status of TPD's involvement in an investigation. That is done on an as needed basis. **Whether to attempt to collect hard evidence of cars frequenting a suspected drug house,** the best action is to keep calling 911 and reporting these activities as often as they occur. /

2) I would strongly recommend that neighbors not be engaged in taking photos or videos of criminal activity due to safety issues and possible accusations of harassment or vigilantism. If there are bad folks doing things, please let the professionals deal with it.

Is there a more harmonious way to deal with multiple repeating red tag houses, occupants? Committee formed for this one. Only the police have jurisdiction and authority to deal with these issues. NA does not have any authority and should limit activity to reporting violations as often as necessary. /

3) Moveable parties. The red tag applies to the location where the party occurred, although the individuals actually pay the penalty. That can be the owner or the tenant. If there are parties elsewhere, these are separate events which need to be called in.

What to do to stop barking dogs?

4) Barking dogs - Pima animal control should be called because sometimes the barking is the animal signaling distress (chained up, no shade, no water, etc.) Mediation is usually the last ditch effort to resolve this.

Consuelo concerned about the weeds in her alley just west of Copper and parallel to Park Avenue.

5) Weeds in alleys - Property owners are responsible for maintenance of the alley behind their homes from the property line to the midway of the alley. Owners need to get out and whack those weeds.



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Next Meetings:

Thursday, May 19th, 2005
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Ward III Community Room
1510 East Grant Road
June 16th, 2005
July 21, 2005

2005 Officers:

Co-Chairperson

Judi Stern 623-2913
Reid Bailey 624-5409

Co-Secretary

RoseMarie Shelley 622-5117
Ron Proctor 629-9788

Sgt.-at-Arms

Suzie Diaz 623-8845

Treasurer

Elva Davis 624-1126

Newsletter Judi &/or Reid

Park Cleanup Phil Alderink 622-2767

Important Phone Numbers:

Tucson Police Dept. Emergencies 911
Non-emergencies 791-4444
Beat Cop 791-5303, Ext. 2304
Ward 3 Council Office 791-4711
Citizen Comment Line 791-4700
Independent Police Auditor 791-5176

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